



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/691,941

10/22/2003

Eric L. Solberg

021756-021410US

6302

51206

7590

07/24/2008

TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP  
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER  
8TH FLOOR  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

EXAMINER

ANDERSON, JOHN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3696

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/24/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/691,941	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SOLBERG ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> JOHN A. ANDERSON	<b>Art Unit</b> 3696	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,12-17 and 44-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,12-17 and 44-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Status of the Claims**

1. This action is in response to the application filed on 10/22/2003. Claims 1-7, 12-17, 44-56 are pending and are examined. Claims 8-11 and 18 -43 are cancelled.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-7, 12-17, 44-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Krishnaswamy S et al (US Patent 6909708 B1).
4. As regards claims 1, 12, 44 and 51, Krishnaswamy discloses a transaction filtering system for allocating transactions among a plurality of business objects, the system comprising:
  - storage configured to store generated allocation rules and to store transaction data associated with [[the]] a plurality of transactions, each generated allocation rule being associated with at least one of the plurality of business objects and being generated using relationships between members of the plurality of business objects; [column 31 lines 36-38]
  - a query engine configured to query the transaction data using the generated allocation rules; [column 19 lines 27-37]
  - an allocation manager configured to make one or more attempts to allocate a member of the plurality of transactions among the plurality of business objects . [column 44 lines 50-57]

Art Unit: 3696

5. As regards claims 2, 13 and 45, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein a member of the plurality of transactions is a sale and the query is configured to determine commission allocation. [column 34 lines 47-53]
6. As regards claims 3, 14 and 46, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein a member of the plurality of transactions is a purchase and the query is configured to determine cost allocation. [Column 53 lines 41-45]
7. As regards claims 4, 15 and 47, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein a member of the plurality of transactions is unallocated after a first attempt at allocation. [Column 46 lines 11-29]
8. As regards claims 5, 16 and 48, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein a member of the plurality of transactions is under-allocated after a first attempt at allocation. [Column 46 lines 11-29]
9. As regards claims 6, 17 and 49, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein a member of the plurality of transactions is over-allocated after a first attempt at allocation. [Column 46 lines 11-29]
10. As regards claims 7 and 50, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein a second attempt at allocating the member of the plurality of transactions includes identifying a business object configured to manually determine the allocation. [Column 222 lines 51-65]
11. As regards claims 13 and 52, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein the hierarchical data structure is configured to represent relationships between business objects in an organization. [Column 34 lines 38-46]
12. As regards claims 14 and 53, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein the first generated allocation rule includes a predefined rule inherited from a parent node. [Column 121 lines 15-38]

Art Unit: 3696

- 13 As regards claims 15 and 54, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein the first generated allocation rule is produced by traversing the hierarchical data structure. [Column 38 lines 31-37]
14. As regards claims 16 and 55, Krishnaswamy discloses wherein the second query is configured to identify a business object having a management role with respect to a node of the hierarchical data structure. [Column 256 lines 24-54]
15. As regards claims 17 and 56, Krishnaswamy discloses further including a transaction source configured to generate the transaction data. [Column 21 lines 4-21]

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN A. ANDERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-3327. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 to 5:00 Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dixon can be reached on 571-272-6803. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3696

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)? If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John A Anderson/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3696

John A Anderson  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3696

/J. A. A. /  
Examiner, Art Unit 3696 07/17/2008

/Daniel S Felten/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3696